

**IN THIS ISSUE**  
**DUNCAN HILCHEY**

## More than value\$ in the food system



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In this jam-packed summer issue of JAFSCD, we offer over 300 pages of commentaries, *Voices from the Grassroots* essays, and peer-reviewed papers, including a special transdisciplinary take on values in the food system by a team of authors from the University of Vermont. On the whole, the scholarly research and voices from practitioners in the field in this issue paint a stark and yet sometimes heartening picture about the future of food and agriculture on our planet. But the warnings are clear and we need to heed them.

However, first I extend our condolences to those who have lost loved ones and colleagues to the pandemic. The United State has just surpassed 200,000 deaths and 7,000,000 cases in its ongoing, vain experiment to prove that freedom and wealth—rather than science and cooperation—are the solutions to our planetary problems. Are the cries of the hungry and scared and the anguish of struggling farmers being heard above the political din? Meanwhile, as many of us face serious challenges, large corporations quietly go about their business playing both sides (food producers and the hungry) against the middle, and quality of life in the world’s richest nation continues to decline.

JAFSCD columnist **John Ikerd** addresses the issue of contradictory American food policy in his Economic Pamphleteer column, *U.S. Farm Policy Alternatives for 2020*. Ikerd examines current farm policies and argues that the Green New Deal is the only policy that is comprehensive enough to make the dramatic changes we need to create a truly resilient food system.

*On our cover:* Taylor Barker and Arielle Luckmann of Waxwing Farm in Skagit County, Washington, participated in the Farm Fresh Food Box (F3B) community supported agriculture (CSA) pilot program to offer access to their produce to a wider range of individuals and families.

*Photo by Diane Smith, Washington State University Extension, and used with permission.*

**JAFSCD**  
**Responds to**  
**the COVID-19**  
**Pandemic**



In this same vein, Jane Kolodinsky and a team of students and colleagues from the University of Vermont (a JAFSCD partner) take a transdisciplinary view of food systems' contribution to humanity beyond farm yield and profit. See <https://doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2020.094.013> to read the introduction to the set of papers on this critical subject.

Over the summer we continued to receive commentaries from around the world about COVID-19 and its extraordinary impacts on food systems. Here is a list of our summer crop of 13 eye-opening commentaries that share the challenges and some responses in a wide range of contexts:

- *Economic Security Assessment of San Jorge, Samar, Philippines, as it Experiences Coronavirus*, by **Marcos E. Bolido**
- *“Informalization” of Food Vending in China: From a Tool for Food Security to Employment Promotion*, by **Taiyang Zhong** and **Steffanie Scott**
- *Food Supply Pressure in France and Germany During COVID-19: Causes from Manufacturing*, by **Suyu Liu**
- *COVID-19 and Food Security in Bangladesh: A Chance to Look Back at What Is Done and What Can Be Done*, by **Debashish Sarker Dev** and **Khondokar H. Kabir**
- *Solidarity Policy in Defense of Life: A Hope in Brazil's Pandemic*, by **Olívio José da Silva Filho** and **Márcia Carolina Silva**
- *COVID-19 Containment and Food Security in the Global South*, by **Jonathan Crush** and **Zhenzhong Si**
- *Digital Media to Guarantee Food Security in Colombia during COVID-19*, by **Ana María Cruz-Vidal**
- *The Future of Food after COVID-19 through the Lens of Anthropology*, by **Marco Ginanneschi**
- *The Impact of Food Supply Chain Disruptions amidst COVID-19 in Malaysia*, by **Chiew Foan Chin**
- *Florida Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Adaptation and Response to COVID-19*, by **Catherine G. Campbell** and **Gene McAvoy**
- *Beyond COVID-19: Turning Crisis to Opportunity in Nigeria through Urban Agriculture*, by **Adeniyi Gbadegesin** and **Bolanle Olajire-Ajayi**
- *Farmers Markets: Working with Community Partners to Provide Essential Services during COVID-19*, by **Shannon Klisch** and **Katherine E. Soule**
- *Conceptualizing the Nexus of Migration and Food Security during COVID-19*, by **Manoj Sharma**

We also share three Voices From the Grassroots essays focused on COVID-19 issues: *Seeding the World* by **Rafael Alvarez**; *Episcopal Farmworker Ministry and Disaster Response to COVID-19* by **Lariza Garzon** and **Andrew R. Smolski**; and *How Southeastern North Carolina is Building More Resilient Food Systems after COVID-19*, by **Julia F. Waity**, **Samantha Moser**, and **Cara Stretch**.

We also share an additional open call commentary not related to COVID-19: *Pathways to Revitalization of Indigenous Food Systems: Decolonizing Diets through Indigenous-focused Food Guides*, by **Taylor Wilson** and **Shailesh Shukla**.

Of course, this issue has its usual complement of excellent open-call, peer-reviewed papers.

**Andrew Berardy**, **Thomas Seager**, **Christine Costello**, and **Christopher Wharton** explore the strengths and weaknesses of life cycle analysis in *Considering the Role of Life Cycle Analysis in Holistic Food Systems Research Policy and Practice*.

In *Expanding Food Agency Theory and Measurement with Mixed Methods: A Study from Philadelphia*, **Caitlin Bradley Morgan** shares her experience in the application of a new tool, Cooking and Food Provisioning Scale (CAFPAS), to increase food agency among a sample of low-income residents of color and university students in Philadelphia.

Next, **Mary L. Buchanan** uses a site-suitability analysis to identify additional potential farmland in a community in *Potential for Leasing Institutional Lands in Windham County, Connecticut: Toward A New England Food Vision*.

A simple typology of management styles for community gardens is developed in “*Don’t Just Come for Yourself: Understanding Leadership Approaches and Volunteer Engagement in Community Gardens*” by **Jeffrey Gilbert, Christina Chauvenet, Brett Sheppard, and Molly De Marco.**

In *A Systems Analysis and Conceptual System Dynamics Model of the Livestock-derived Food System in South Africa: A Tool for Policy Guidance*, **Kevin Queenan, Nafiisa Sobratee, Rashieda Davids, Tafadzwanashe Mabhaudhi, Michael Chimonyo, Rob Sloto, Bhavani Shankar, and Barbara Häslér** take a deep dive into the structure of South Africa’s livestock industry and its contribution and challenges in supporting a national food supply.

**Brian Raison and John C. Jones** reflect on the opportunities and challenges of creating an online farmers market in a rural community in *Virtual Farmers Markets: A Reflective Essay on a Rural Ohio Project*.

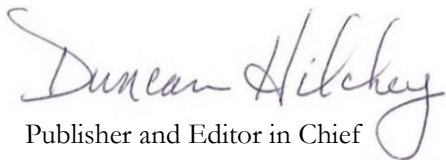
Finally, in *From Online Cart to Plate: What Amazon’s Retail Domination Means for the Future of Food*, **Carly Livingstone and Irena Knezevic** reveal, with some concern, the growth and potential impact of a global one-stop retailer’s impacts on community food systems.

## Reviews

We appreciate the reviewers of books on behalf of JAFSCD’s readers.

- **Laxmi Prasad Pant** reviews *Organic Food and Farming in China: Top-Down and Bottom-Up Ecological Initiatives*, Steffanie Scott, Zhenzhong Si, Theresa Schumilas, and Aijuan Chen. While this book was ably reviewed by Anthony M. Fuller in the spring issue of JAFSCD, Pant considers the book in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Leah Halliday** reviews *Grocery Activism: The Radical History of Food Cooperatives in Minnesota*, by Craig B. Upright.
- **Sarah Morath** reviews *Regulation by Proxy: How the USDA Relies on Public, Nonprofit, and For-Profit Intermediaries to Oversee Organic Food in the U.S.*, by David P. Carter.
- **Claire Hutkins Seda** reviews *The New American Farmer: Immigration, Race, and the Struggle for Sustainability*, by Laura-Anne Minkoff-Zern.
- **Jennifer R. Shutek** reviews *Food Insecurity and Revolution in the Middle East and North Africa: Agrarian Questions in Egypt and Tunisia*, by Habib Ayeb and Ray Bush.

With best wishes for health and resilience,

  
Duncan Hilchey

Publisher and Editor in Chief